



162 Our navy, which, during the last three years, has cost such an incalculable amount of money, appears to be faring badly at the hands of the rebels, who were expected to be easily overpowered upon the water. They have destroyed our fleet of ironclads in James river; in the inland waters of North Carolina a rebel craft that cost not more than \$50,000 has proved an overmatch for seven of our best gunboats; at Wilmington they have captured our fleet of transports, including one iron-clad, on an expedition to trip directly by our blockading line; in Red river they have made havoc of a good many of our vessels, including one or two gunboats; and at Charleston and Mobile they have fleets of armed vessels which may soon prove damaging or even destructive to the blockaders.

We cannot help thinking, in view of all things, that the navy department has been managed by the present head long enough. Ever since the fight between the first monitor and the Merrimack, he has had monitor upon the brain—no, the ship, which we should have confidence in, which we should have confidence in, if we were to be attacked by one of the most powerful of the rebel navies.

163 Our Eastern Editor calls Congress "an obscene bird." But doesn't he like its *golem*,

on Richmond in a panic, for Grant said he rebels hold a strong position between the North and South Anna; the Secretary of War intimates that it may take two or three years to develop the strategy of the respective armies; the President has no money in his hand, so we take few prisoners. The Virginia Central Railroad runs from Gordonsville to Hancock Junction, between the ranches of the Pamunkey—the Anna rivers—it is doubtless under our control by this time. We have a most important advantage. All dogs lack cheering, though there is nothing special.

**THE** passion for the proclamation movement to take the future of the abolition party very much like the measles in a family. Every member had it once. The elder members have had it, and the younger ones catch it as they grow up. For example, the Cincinnati Gazette, which is an old ones, has "the emancipation proclamation," says the Gazette "but a weapon in the hands of the enemy, North and South, while it did not emancipate a single slave." On the other hand, the abolition journals of Kentucky, which are children in years, have a proclamation of the President, and are writing in the agonies of its crisis. So it

THE Rev. Dr. Miner delivered a sermon in Boston several nights ago, wherein General Banks of being drunk at a table of Red River. He said:

"General Massachusetts, once Governor of the State, has not only violated the laws, is defeated at a distant point, the use of the intoxicating cup."

"I agree with you," said a contemporary of the speaker, "but the State of Massachusetts was defeated 'through the use of the intoxicating cup,' the draught it contained not spirituous but spirits. If ambition, avarice, and the love of power, be the cause of our defeat, let us be wiser, let us be more sober, as we have said before, that he too much absorbed for the good of his party and for his own good in constructing the State out of Louisiana according to the nation model. In pursuing his improper policy, by neglecting his power and influence, he has brought down upon himself the mischiefs of the latter."

"A Charleston paper says that the State has thrown into that city 'merely knuckle-boned' engineers and engineers' assistants, to help their men, then."

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1900

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